

Amendments to the Claims

1. (Previously Presented) An oral composition for alveolar bone resorption inhibition and periodontal membrane loss inhibition, comprising a soy isoflavone aglycone, calcium, and vitamin D₃;

wherein the soy isoflavone aglycone is obtained from or in an extract from whole-grain soy; the genistein/daidzein weight ratio in the soy isoflavone aglycone is in the range of 1/1 to 1.5/1, and the proportion of the total weight of genistein and daidzein in the soy isoflavone aglycone is at least 90%.

2. (Previously Presented) An agent for preventing or treating gingival recession, comprising a soy isoflavone aglycone, calcium, and vitamin D₃;

wherein the soy isoflavone aglycone is obtained from or in an extract from whole-grain soy; the genistein/daidzein weight ratio in the soy isoflavone aglycone is in the range of 1/1 to 1.5/1, and the proportion of the total weight of genistein and daidzein in the soy isoflavone aglycone is at least 90%.

3. (Previously Presented) An agent for preventing or treating alveolar bone resorption and periodontal membrane loss, comprising a soy isoflavone aglycone, calcium, and vitamin D₃;

wherein the soy isoflavone aglycone is obtained from or in an extract from whole-grain soy; the genistein/daidzein weight ratio in the soy isoflavone aglycone is in the range of 1/1 to 1.5/1, and the proportion of the total weight of genistein and daidzein in the soy isoflavone aglycone is at least 90%.

4. (Previously Presented) A composition or agent according to Claim 1, wherein the proportion of soy isoflavone aglycone in the composition or agent is 0.001% to 10% by weight; and the proportion of calcium in the composition or agent is 0.01% to 50% by weight.

5. (Previously Presented) A composition or agent according to Claim 1, wherein the composition or agent is for persons having decreased bone density, postmenopausal women, or periodontal disease patients in a maintenance phase.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Withdrawn) A method for inhibiting alveolar bone resorption and periodontal membrane loss, comprising orally administering a composition according to Claim 1.

8. (Withdrawn) A method for preventing or treating gingival recession, comprising orally administering a composition according to Claim 1.

9-11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently amended) A composition or agent according to ~~claim~~ Claim 3, wherein the proportion of soy isoflavone aglycone in the composition or agent is 0.001% to 10% by weight; and the proportion of calcium in the composition or agent is 0.01% to 50% by weight.

13. (Currently amended) A composition or agent according to ~~claim~~ Claim 3, wherein the composition or agent is for persons having decreased bone density, postmenopausal women, or periodontal disease patients in a maintenance phase.

14-16. (Cancelled)

17. (New) A composition or agent according Claim 1, wherein the proportion of soy isoflavone aglycone in the compound or agent is 0.001% to 10% by weight; the proportion of calcium in the composition or agent is 0.01% to 50% by weight, and the proportion of vitamin D₃ is 10⁻⁸% to 10⁻¹% by weight.

18. (New) A composition or agent according Claim 3, wherein the proportion of soy isoflavone aglycone in the compound or agent is 0.001% to 10% by weight; the proportion of calcium in the composition or agent is 0.01% to 50% by weight, and the proportion of vitamin D₃ is 10⁻⁸% to 10⁻¹% by weight.